

THE PACIFIC  
Commercial Advertiser.

W. N. ARMSTRONG, - EDITOR.

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THE ANNEXATION FLOOD.

Did you ever stand upon the dam of a great reservoir and watch the rise of the waters towards the summit of the embankment, in the time of a spring flood? And did you ask yourself the question, will it overflow? or will the waters recede? or will they stand still? And, when you knew that the great body of water was fed from springs which covered a vast area, and were located a hundred miles away, and that no living human being had ever counted them all, or had gauged the rainfall you felt quite certain that any prediction you made about the rising flood was mere guess work. It might rise to an inch of the top, or it might rise high above the inch and overflow, and it might suddenly fall.

This is the condition of the annexation flood, at the last advices. The thousand political springs which run into it, may be increasing their waters. They may not. There may be heavy rains in the mountains that no one knows about. There may be unknown soakage. The flood may reach the top of the embankment in a week and overflow on Hawaii soil. And it may not. All we can now do is to watch the weather gauges, and make the fall of rain. If the waters recede, the "I told you so" people will shout. If the overflow takes place, the other lot of "I told you so" people will shout. Men, who are really no longer boys, will simply watch and wait. The next mail may bring some changes in the water gauges. We will wait and read.

AN OLD QUESTION.

Forty-two years ago, the question put before one of the large literary societies of Yale College was: "Ought Cuba to be annexed to the United States?"

Three members of the college, at that time, now reside here and listened to the debate. Chauncy Depew, also a member, was present. The arguments in favor of annexation used today, were used then. The decision of the referee was not upon the merits of the question, but upon the merits of the speakers.

The strongest argument against annexation, at that time, was the existence of slavery in the island of Cuba, and the probable renewal of the slave trade, in the event of annexation.

Since that time, slavery has been abolished in Cuba, by decree of Spain, and abolished in the United States by "blood and iron."

The new issue now is the "Manifest Destiny" of the Americans. Sea crabs, once a year, out-grow their shells, and withdraw from them. Nature at once forms a new shell over them, and shortly in their hard and enlarged shells, they work out their own manifest destiny.

The American people have nearly out-grown their constitutional shell. It is hard and inflexible on the line of Colonial Government. "Manifest Destiny" says that there must be a new shell, which will cover the new growth. The sea crab knows when to get out of his old shell. The great American crab does not know just what to do about it. Cuba and Hawaii make it think. When the sea crab is about to withdraw from his shell, he is called a "buster" and a small opening seam appears across his hard body. It is a sign that he is about to change. The seam is just now opening on the body of the American crab. Perhaps it will leave the old shell in a few weeks. It is almost a "bus-

A PUBLIC RECEPTION.

Capt. Sam Burroughs, a back wood-sident Tyler's New Year's receptions. As he appeared in his shirt sleeves, one of the ushers quietly requested him to go to his rooms and get his coat, before entering the reception room. The blood of the Tennessean instantly flushed up to fever heat. He made at once some incisive, instructive and running commentaries on the origin and nature of American political institutions, and the relations of the President to the people. "That fellow in thar," he shouted to the usher, "is the sarvent of the people. Me and my people in Tennessee is sovereigns, and the President ain't no better than d—n nigger in being ob- leeged to do as the people tell him."

The wearing of the coat was not insisted on. Captain Burroughs shook President Tyler's hand, and made a bull's-eye of the spittoon on the other side of the room.

The wife of a foreign diplomat observing the incident remarked that she now saw, for the first time, the uncouth strength of democracy in America. The Captain was a rough diamond, but his descendants would in due time appear in all the manners and habits of the fashions of the old world.

Regarding the intercourse of the public and the Executive, the Sovereign people should, on great public occasions, stand up in sections, while the President and his official staff should appear before them, bow lowly in humility, and cover themselves with dust and ashes in token of their menial positions as public servants. But here, as elsewhere, a sort of Monarchical idea prevails, that the Executive is a political leader or master.

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There is something incongruous in the spectacle, however pleasant, of the head of the Nation dressed in plain clothes, while the subordinates are illuminated with gorgeous raiment.

"Mama," asked a little girl, as she saw for the first time, the brilliant staff of an American governor: "are those the Angel Gabriel and his boys? Where are their trumpets?"

As there is in Japan a serious controversy regarding the old and attractive native costumes of the people in contrast with modern European dress, so there is a controversy here, smothered at times, regarding the ancient and natural native Hawaiian dress, so becoming, so picturesque and so scanty and the modern European dress. The reception on New Year's day might well have been one in which all of the old natives costumes were revived, as if at a fancy ball. Should annexation take place, such a reception would be, perhaps, a fitting round up of the native nationality before it entered into the great nationality.

Mr. Elisha Berry, of this place, says he never had anything do him so much good and give such quick relief from rheumatism as Chamberlain's Pain Balm. He was bothered greatly with shooting pains from hip to knee until he used this liniment, which affords prompt relief.—B. F. Baker, druggist, St. Paris, Ohio. For sale by all druggists and dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., wholesale agents for Hawaiian Islands.

Mark Twain in speaking of the German language one evening in Vienna said that "it ought to be forbidden by act of Parliament to construct one sentence of 112 words with seven parentheses and seven subjects."

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